

HOMEWORK POLICY

Rationale

Regular homework is a valuable part of the learning process and contributes to the development of sound study habits. It teaches students to take responsibility for their own learning and time management, and promotes parent involvement with the school and the student by the sharing of knowledge through discussion.

Biblical Perspectives

The intention that underpins every understanding at Waverley Christian College is that God be glorified in all things. Since students' work habits are to be an integral part of a life that seeks to be lived in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) and since the God in whose image the students were created is orderly (1 Corinthians 14:33), students are encouraged to develop orderly habits in regard to the completion and submission of all work. Work should be completed to the best of the student's ability (Ecclesiastes 9:10) and with integrity, in such a way as to honour and to grow in the knowledge of God (Colossians 1:10).

General Aims

- To benefit a student's learning by extending, developing and reinforcing work covered in class.
- To lay the foundations for home study habits necessary for higher education.
- To foster parental interest, awareness and involvement in a student's work.
- To develop disciplined individual study habits that will encourage students to work responsibly and independently.
- To continue and extend learning experiences which have begun at school using resources at home and in the community.

Policy Statement

Independent study skills are important to everyone. As children mature they should therefore develop regular and consistent homework habits, which build upon study skills and habits taught in school. It is probably best to have a private place to study, although some prefer to work in the company of other family members. In either case, distractions should be minimised and the television should be out of range.

Students should aim for a healthy attitude towards homework. Their own academic ability should be taken into account as well as the value of developing other interests. Important as it is, homework is not the only thing in a student's life. Other things need time too, such as hobbies, music lessons, sports practice, and reading for pleasure, relaxation and church activities. Each student, possibly with the guidance of their parents, should therefore work out a personal timetable for homework and other activities.

Parents should make allowance for children who are slower workers as well as those who are able to complete homework in a short period of time. Students should not be satisfied with a minimum effort and especially the more capable student needs to be encouraged to go beyond what is expected. Teachers may provide enrichment activities for individual students at their discretion. Regular homework habits help children increase their working pace but those who work more slowly should leave enough time for other activities. **Therefore, if parents believe that homework is too much or too difficult for their child, they should feel free to contact the child's teacher and discuss this matter.** Special tasks and research for projects will replace reading when necessary. Projects will be completed at school. **No homework will be set during school holidays.**

As a rule, failure or inability to complete set homework should always be explained by a note in the school diary from the parent to the teacher, otherwise children may be given a homework detention. Your child will benefit greatly from your support in this area.

Homework Expectations for Students at Waverley Christian College

Prep

15 – 20 minutes – 4 nights per week

Regular Tasks

- Blending Book – students to practise sounds learned up to the present time (10 minutes).
- Take Home Readers – each student takes part in a home book reading program, which involves reading regularly four nights per week (10 minutes - from Term 2).

Other

- Learn memory verse - practise current Scripture regularly.

Year 1

Approximately 20 minutes – 4 nights per week

Regular Tasks

- Take Home Readers – each student takes part in a home book reading program, which involves reading regularly four nights per week (10 minutes).
- Spelling lists (5-10 minutes).

Other

- Learn memory verse - practise current Scripture regularly.
- Research for projects and special tasks may replace reading when necessary.

Year 2

Approximately 20 minutes – 4 nights per week

Regular Tasks

- Take Home Readers – each student takes part in a home book reading program, which involves reading regularly four nights per week (10 minutes).
- Spelling lists (5 minutes).
- Maths Mentals (5 minutes).

Other

- Learn memory verse - practise current Scripture regularly.
- Research for projects and special tasks may replace reading when necessary.

Year 3

Approximately 30 minutes – 4 nights per week

Regular Tasks

- Take Home Readers – each student takes part in a home book reading program, which involves reading regularly four nights per week (10 minutes).
- Spelling lists (5 minutes).
- Maths Plus Mentals – one set each night (10 minutes).

Other

- Learn memory verse - practise current Scripture regularly.
- Music – 3 x 5 minutes music practice each week.
- Computer – keyboard skills practised regularly.
- Research for projects and special tasks may replace reading when necessary.

Year 4

Approximately 30 minutes – 4 nights per week

Regular Tasks

- Take Home Readers – each student takes part in a home book reading program, which involves reading regularly four nights per week (10 minutes).
- Spelling lists (5 minutes).
- Maths Plus Mentals – one unit each night (10 minutes).

Other

- Learn memory verse - practise current Scripture regularly.
- Music – 3 x 5 minutes music practice each week.
- Computer – keyboard skills practised 3 x 5 minutes week.
- Research for projects and special tasks may replace reading when necessary.
- Drama – occasional script memorisation.

Year 5

Approximately 45 minutes – 4 nights per week

Regular Tasks

- Spelling lists (10 minutes).
- Reading (15 minutes)
- Maths Plus Mentals and Times Tables (10 minutes).

Other

- Learn memory verse - practise current Scripture regularly.
- Music – 3 x 5 minutes music practice each week.
- Computer – keyboard skills practised regularly.
- Research for projects and special tasks may replace reading when necessary.

Year 6

Approximately 45 minutes – 4 nights per week

Regular Tasks

- Spelling lists (10 minutes).
- Reading (15 minutes)
- Maths Plus Mentals (10 minutes).

Other

- Learn memory verse - practise current Scripture regularly.
- Music – 3 x 5 minutes music practice each week.
- Computer – keyboard skills practised regularly.
- Research for projects and special tasks may replace reading when necessary.

English as a Second Language Students

- Reading to and with your child on a daily basis is beneficial.

LEAPS Students

- Students may be given homework programs. The LEAPS teacher will liaise with parents and classroom teachers.